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THE LIFE OF THE INLAND WATERS.

Under this title Messrs. Needham and Lloyd are issuing a book that will interest and help beginning students of aquatic biology. It is an untechnical discussion of some of the conditions determining the life of fresh waters, and of the life itself. It will be valuable to many of the members of the American Microscopical Society.

Chapter I treats in an introductory way some of the conditions of aquatic investigation and concludes with a list of the American Stations for the study of Biology in the field. Chapters II and III discuss the nature of water as an environment for organisms, and some of the particular types of fresh water bodies as these determine the life within them. Chapter IV gives an account of the aquatic organisms themselves:—algæ, colorless water plants, moss-worts, fernworts, and seed plants; protozoans, lower invertebrates, arthropods, and vertebrates. Chapter V discusses the individual adjustments of organisms to the conditions of aquatic life and to one another. Chapter VI treats aquatic societies and Chapter VII, inland water-culture.

Aside from its educational value in connection with school courses, the book has interest to the general student because the waters are a source of a considerable part of our food supply, are important in determining the sanitary conditions of our existence on the earth, and are mixed up vitally with our recreation and pleasure.

The Life of Inland Waters. James G. Needham and J. F. Lloyd. Illustrated 1915. Comstock Publishing Co., Ithaca, N. Y.

PHOTOMICROGRAPHY

It can safely be said that the general worker has not yet realized the possibilities of the combination of microscopy and photography in research, in technology, and in industry. In the preparation of the Handbook of Photomicrography, Messrs. Hind and Randles have rendered a real service alike to the general student and to those directly interested in the technique of the photography of microscopic objects.

The following chapter headings will sufficiently indicate the character and scope of the treatment:—Photomicrographic apparatus; The microscope; Objectives and Eyepieces; Condensers; Experiments on illumination; Low power photomicrography; Critical photomicrography; Color screens and color sensitive plates; Exposure; Oblique and dark ground illumination; Opaque objects—metallography; Color photomicrography; Photographic operations; Some applications of photomicrography.

The point of view is primarily that of the photographer, altho there is the description of the theory and technic in both fields. The apparatus is illustrated by the text figures. In addition to these figures there are 44 full-page photomicrographic reproductions illustrating processes discussed in the text. Eight of these plates are 3-color reproductions of direct color-photomicrography. These are remarkably effective illustrations. Each is accompanied by directions as to the method of its production. There are photographs made by low, medium, and high powers; oblique illuminations, dark-ground and opaque objects; instantaneous and time exposures, stereoscopic and by polarized light.

An appendix includes formulae, processes and tables. An index follows. The mechanical appearance of the book is excellent.

Handbook of Photomicrography. Hind and Randles. Pages 292, with 44 plates and 71 text-figures. E. P. Dutton & Co., New York. Price $2.50 net.